

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 254976

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. SPAIN: BUSINESS AS USUAL, BUT THE VIGIL GOES ON

EMBASSY MADRID REPORTS THAT SPAIN IS CALM AS IT AWAITS THE
TRANSITION.

--GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS AND ENTERTAINMENT CONTINUE
MUCH AS USUAL.

--THE MILITARY AND THE POLICE ARE ON AN ALERT, BUT IT
IS A MODEST ONE.

--ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REGENCY, WHICH
WILL HOLD POWER UNTIL JUAN CARLOS' TAKEOVER, HAVE
BEEN IN MADRID SINCE OCTOBER 26.

EMBASSY COMMENT: WHILE HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION IS FOCUSED ON
SUCCESSION PROBLEMS, FRANCO'S INCAPACITY HAS NOT PRODUCED
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GOVERNMENTAL PARALYSIS. DAY TO DAY BUSINESS CONTINUES AND

THE GOS, WITHOUT FRANCO AT THE HELM, MADE A FUNDAMENTAL DECISION TO TRY ANEW TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH MOROCCO ON THE SAHARA. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) MADRID 7487, 10/27.)

2. SAHARA: SPANISH OPTIMISM

SPANISH MINISTER OF THE PRESIDENCY CARRO MARTINEZ, WHO PARTICIPATED IN LAST WEEK'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH MOROCCO, TOLD AMBASSADOR STABLER OCTOBER 27:

--HE IS OPTIMISTIC THAT SPAIN AND MOROCCO WILL REACH AGREEMENT; THIS SHOULD BE EVIDENT SOON WHEN THE MOROCCAN NEGOTIATORS RETURN.

--UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CAN SPAIN PERMIT THE MARCHERS TO ENTER SAHARAN TERRITORY.

--ALGERIA'S ATTITUDES ARE UNCLEAR, BUT IT PROBABLY WILL NOT USE FORCE AGAINST MOROCCO. (CONFIDENTIAL) MADRID 7486, 10/27.)

3. ANGOLA: LUANDA REFUGEE AIRLIFT WILL TERMINATE OCTOBER 31

CONSULATE GENERAL LUANDA REPORTS THAT THE REFUGEE AIRLIFT WILL BE TERMINATED FOR LUANDA AREA RESIDENTS OCTOBER 31. A REDUCED AIRLIFT WITH A CAPACITY OF 2000 PERSONS DAILY WILL CONTINUE THROUGH NOVEMBER 3 IN ANTICIPATION OF A LAST MINUTE SURGE IN DEMAND. THE CONSULATE RECOMMENDS THAT THE USG PHASE DOWN ITS PARTICIPATION BUT ACCEDE THE REQUEST OF PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES FOR SUPPORT OF THE REDUCED AIRLIFT. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) LUANDA 1633, 10/27.) KISSINGER

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